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SUBJECT Marxist Government in Nicaragua

KURT HENSCHEN: CIA Director William Casey says the Marxist government in Nicaragua poses an immediate threat to the Panama Canal and a longer-term threat to Mexico. Casey, in a speech published yesterday, said the Sandinistas have taken 33 of 46 steps on the Soviet Union's blueprint for seizing and consolidating power.

Casey said the Soviets and Cubans want Nicaragua for a beachhead and launching pad for subversion of the rest of Central and South America.

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